

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 02143 092027Z

73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01 SY-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 AID-05 /092 W

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R 091955Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2820

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 2143

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, CI, IT

SUBJECT: ASYLEES: ITALIAN EMBASSY AND NUNCIATURA

REF: SANTIAGO 1966

1. SUMMARY: EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT SOME UNKNOWN SOURCE IS ORGANIZING CONTINUOUS INFLOW OF ASYLEES INTO EMBASSIES IN SANTIAGO. OBJECTIVE IS OBVIOUSLY TO EMBARRASS GOVERNMENT BY HIGHLIGHTING DESIRE OF MANY CHILEANS TO LEAVE COUNTRY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RECENT MONTHS NUMBER OF ASYLEES CLIMBING OVER FENCES OF EMBASSY RESIDENCES IN SANTIAGO HAS DIMINSHED, AND GOC HAS BEEN ISSUING EXIT PERMITS QUITE RAPIDLY IN EXPECTATION THAT IN DOING SO IT COULD LOOK FORWARD TO TIME WHEN ALL EMBASSIES WOULD HAVE BEEN VACATED BY CHILEAN "GUESTS." INFLOW CONTINUES, HOWEVER, IN SUCH A WAY THAT REAL GROUNDS EXIST FOR CONCLUSION THAT SOME ORGANIZATION IS MASTERMINDING THE JOB OF PROVIDING A CONSTANT FLOW OF ASYLEES INTO FOREIGN MISSIONS. CRITICAL FACTOR IS THAT RECENT ARRIVALS HAVE NOTNCOME INDIVIDUALLY, BUT IN GROUPS OF FIVE TO THIRTY PERSONS ENTERING SIMULTANEOUSLY.

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 02143 092027Z

3. RECENT ASYLEES ARE NOT, BY AND LARGE, POLITICAL ACTIVISTS.

GENERALLY THEY MAY HOLD LEFTIST VIEWS, BUT ONLY RARELY HAVE THEY BEEN ABLE TO CONVINCE THEIR EMBASSY HOSTS THAT THEY HAD ANY REAL REASON TO FEAR DETENTION BY GOC SECURITY AUTHORITIES. SOME SEEM TO BE USING THE ASYLEE ROUTE TO GET TO A

COUNTRY WHERE ECONOMIC OR PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES MAY BE BETTER THAN THEY ARE IN CHILE.

4. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION AS TO THE ORGANIZING HAND IN THIS PROCESS. PAPAL NUNCIO, A CONSERVATIVE, TELLS US HE THINKS IT IS MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT (MIR), THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHICH IN SPITE OF SHARP AND EFFECTIVE REPRESSION CONTINUES TO MAKE ITSELF VISIBLE FROM TIME TO TIME. OTHER THEORIES ATTRIBUTE RESPONSIBILITY TO A RANGE OF ORGANIZATIONS FROM COMMUNISTS ON ONE SIDE TO DISSIDENT CHURCHMEN ON THE OTHER. WE HAVE FOUND NO MEANS THUS FAR OF IDENTIFYING THE RESPONSIBLE BODY.

5. IN THIS REGARD, ITALIAN CHARGE DE VERGOTTINI DISCUSSED HIS EMBASSY'S ASYLEE PROBLEMS WITH US ON APRIL 8. ITALIAN EMBASSY HAS FOR MONTHS BEEN THE ONE MOST FAVORED BY ASYLEES, PARTLY BECAUSE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PREFERS TO ADMIT MOST ASYLEES INTO ITALY RATHER THAN TO REBUFF THEM.

6. DE VERGOTTINI SAID THAT SINCE SEPT 1973 HIS EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED 676 ASYLEES, 531 OF WHOM LEFT CHILE FOR ITALY, THE REST GOING TO THIRD COUNTRIES. UNTIL BEGINNING APRIL, ALL ASYLEES HAD ENTERED VACANT EMBASSY RESIDENCE. LAST ONE LEFT THAT BUILDING APRIL 4, AND RESIDENCE IS NOW UNDER CAREFUL GUARD. HOWEVER, A GROUP OF 27 ENTERED UNGUARDED CHANCERY APRIL 3, INCLUDING WIFE OF ONE MAN WHO DEPARTED RESIDENCE FOLLOWING DAY. THIS GROUP CONSISTED OF FIVE MALES, NINE WOMEN, AND THE REST CHILDREN. ITALIANS DETERMINED THAT ADULTS WERE MEMBERS OF VARIOUS PARTIES OF LEFT, BUT CONCLUDED ONLY TWO MIGHT BE FACING REAL PROBLEMS WITH GOC. UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, CHARGE ASKED FONMINISTRY FOR SAFE CONDUCTS, WHICH WERE GRANTED EXPEDITIOUSLY, AND GROUP LEFT FOR ITALY APRIL 8. CHARGE BELIEVES THAT ENTRANCE OF GROUP INTO CHANCERY WAS POLITICAL MOVE TO EMBARRASS GOC BEFORE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT, AND THAT SPEED WITH WHICH SAFE CONDUCTS WERE ISSUED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTIA 02143 092027Z

SHOWED GOC'S DESIRE TO GET RID OF THEM QUICKLY.

7. PAPAL NUNCIO SOTERO SANZ HAS CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT "GUESTS" HAVE BEEN ARRIVING AT HIS RESIDENCE. LAST WEEK FIVE CAME IN AT ONCE; APRIL 9, NUNCIO TOLD AMBASSADOR ANOTHER GROUP HAD ENTERED, RAISING TOTAL TO THIRTY. NUNCIO SAID SOME OF THESE HAD EXPRESSED DESIRE TO BE SENT TO US, AND INQUIRED WHETHER THIS WAS POSSIBLE. AMBASSADOR SAID THERE

HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN OUR POLICY; WE STILL HAD NO MEANS OF  
EXPEDITING ADMISSION OF CHILEAN ASYLEES.  
POPPER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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